

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-23. (canceled)

24. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a transcript or cDNA sequence that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) SEQ ID NO:1;

(c) nucleotides 38-1195 of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(d) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to the nucleotide sequence of (a), (b), or (c).

25. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or the complete complement thereof.

26. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence comprising nucleotides 38-1195 of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complete complement thereof.

27. (new) An isolated transcript or cDNA nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2, or the complete complement of said nucleotide sequence.

28. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, wherein the nucleotide sequence of said nucleic acid molecule consists of nucleotides 2038-17213 of SEQ ID NO:3 or the complete complement thereof.

29. (new) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 24-28.

30. (new) An isolated host cell containing the vector of claim 29.

31. (new) A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 30 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering said polypeptide.

32. (new) The vector of claim 29, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, a virus, and a bacteriophage.

33. (new) The vector of claim 29, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2 is expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

34. (new) The vector of claim 33, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence.